

HONORING ROSENDO CARRANCO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rosendo Carranco, an upstanding citizen of Laredo, Texas, who was recently awarded the Spirit of Jerusalem Award by the state of Israel.

It is a great honor for me to enter into the RECORD the accomplishments of Mr. Carranco in tribute to his dedication to the business community, and numerous charitable works that have benefited the citizens of Laredo. After he graduated from Texas A&M University in 1977, he returned to Laredo to start his own accounting firm, Carranco & Lawson, where his wife, Mary, serves as partner. In addition to his work as an accountant, Mr. Carranco works as a real estate developer whose work includes the Cielito Lindo subdivision, and he is also involved in various business ventures that include insurance, oil, and gas. He and his wife, Mary are the proud parents of three children, Andrew, Kathryn, and Robert.

Mr. Carranco is well known in Laredo for his gregarious and outgoing demeanor as well as numerous contributions to community service. He is a beloved coach in the local youth basketball, football, and baseball teams as well as a highly active participant in the Boys and Girls Club, Young President's Organization, United Way, Junior Achievement, Laredo A&M Club, and Daybreak Rotary organizations. His exemplary compassion and his deep commitment to his faith make him a fine role model for young people in Laredo, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Rosendo Carranco, recipient of the Spirit of Jerusalem Award by the state of Israel.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANDREA MARIE PEREA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Marie Perea, who is a two-time State Champion in the sport of Gymnastics.

At 12 years old, Andrea has achieved more in the sport of gymnastics than many athletes will accomplish in a lifetime. In the 2005 Nevada State Championships in Reno, Nevada, Andrea scored first place in 4 of the 5 events that she competed in, including uneven bars, balance beam, floor exercise, and best all around performance, leading her to win her first Nevada State Championship. She became a two-time title holder at the 2006 Nevada State Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada, where she took home first place on the vault, balance beam, and again received the title of best all around.

Andrea's athleticism does not stop with gymnastics. She takes ballet and belly dance lessons, and participates in a Fiesta Flamenca dance troupe. In addition to her athletic achievements, Andrea gives back to the Las Vegas community by volunteering with Salud en Accion, a program that provides outreach

to the Hispanic community on Medicare, Medicaid, and basic health services. Furthermore, Andrea acts as an altar server for the Guardian Angel Cathedral Catholic Church in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Andrea is committed to maintaining her public service, and would like to get more involved with events in her local Las Vegas community. A straight "A" student, she intends to maintain her grades while continuing to practice dance and violin in her spare time. She has set her sights on participating in the 2012 Olympic Games in London, and then taking her gold medal to West Point where she will study medicine, and eventually become a surgeon. With more young women like Andrea Marie Perea, who strive to meet their goals with great ambition and pride, I see a bright future for America.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to honor Andrea Marie Perea and her outstanding accomplishments. I wish her the best in her gymnastics career, as well as with all of her future endeavors.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT PENSION CONFEREES

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, we need common sense, bipartisan legislation to protect pension benefits and to honor the promise of pensions.

I rise to support this motion to ensure the Senate provisions are included in the final Pension bill—especially the provision that ensures airlines like American, Continental, Delta, and Northwest are not forced to terminate pension plans. The Senate provision would provide the critical time needed to fund pension plans promised to employees.

No such provision exists in the House bill. Airlines were promised, in exchange for their support of the House Pension bill, that House leadership would work with them in conference to obtain the relief they wanted—though Republican leadership declined to include their provisions in the House bill. The Bush administration opposes the airline provisions.

We must help airlines avoid the termination of their pension plans. Timing is of the essence. Two of the airlines that would benefit from this provision are currently in bankruptcy and could terminate their pension plans. And, two others could take advantage of this relief.

In September 2005, Northwest Airlines filed for bankruptcy after losing more than \$4 billion since 2001. Northwest's pension plans are underfunded by \$3.8 billion. Without airline relief provisions, Northwest would be required to pay \$3.3 billion in pension funding obligations by 2007 and would likely need to abandon and turn over its pension plans to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. In January 2006, the pilots union agreed with Northwest to freeze the pilot pension plan and replace it with a defined contribution plan. I support the decision made by Northwest and their pilots.

Labor, employees, and airline management strongly support an airlines provision in the Pension bill.

Keep the airlines flying and employees working. Support this motion.

RECOGNIZING GREATER PITTSBURGH CHAPTER OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO).

The National Association of Women Business Owners was established in Washington, DC in 1975. NAWBO is the only dues-based national organization that represents all women business owners in all industries. It's the voice of the American business woman. 10.1 million women-owned businesses are represented nationwide. Today there are over 80 chapters throughout the United States. The Pittsburgh Chapter of NAWBO was established in 1977 and since then has had the privilege of having two its members serve as national presidents. In 2000, Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of NAWBO was named the fastest growing Chapter in United States.

This year the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of NAWBO has many Make the Connection Award Honorees. The honorees are: Pamela Abdalla of The Salvation Army Family Crisis Center; Bonnie Anton of the American Heart Association; Dr. Joseph Bairn of The Bradley Center; Aggie Brose of the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group; Mary Jean Byrnes of Carlow University, Community Education; Beth Caldwell of the Incredible Mom Award; Bonnie DiCarlo of Celebrate and Share; JoAnn Forrester of Celebrate and Share; Shamina Frank of the Antioch Baptist Church; Suzanne Froehlich of the Power Lunch; Bonnie Hassan of A Place for Reiki; Dorothy M. Horvath of ACHIEVA; Tracy Lee Janov of the McKeesport Weed and Seed Program; Marleen Kasbee of the North Hills Community Outreach; Lillian T. King of the St. Cyril of Alexandria Church; Carol MacPhail of the United Way of Allegheny County; Maryann Magra of the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center; Steve Miklas of Calliope, the Pittsburgh Folk Music Society; Susan Miller of WBN North Points North Chapter; Grace Moffett of POWER; Shaela Montague-Phillips of the Meeting of the Minds Publications; Anne Mullaney of Neighbors in the Strip; Martha Murdock of Care Break at Watson Institute; Susanne Parks of ACHIEVA-POWER; Rae Reynolds of UMOJA African Arts Company; Linda Rinchiuso of The Lighthouse; Phyllis Rinsma of Exceptional Friends; Beth Rom of ABOARD—Advisory Board on Autism: Related Services; Barbara Sallo of PowerLink; Sydney Schwartz-Hardiman of WBN North Points North Chapter; Steve Smith of Elliot West End Athletic Association; Mary Sutphen of POWER; Sandra Talley of Morningside Church of God in Christ; Lisa Vandemia of Care Break at Watson Institute; and Andrea M. Williams of the Children's Sickle Cell Foundation.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the honorees of the Make a Connection Award. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania

and a pleasure to salute such hardworking individuals like those in the National Association of Women Business Owners.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
GEORGE ODOM

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of George Odom, a long time resident of my hometown of Prescott, Arkansas who passed away at the age of 70 on February 15, 2006. George was born on August 23, 1935 in Heflin, Louisiana and I would like to recognize his life and achievements.

Raised in Minden, Louisiana, George attended Webster High School followed by service in the United States Army. Upon leaving the Army, he attended Grambling State University where he received a degree in Secondary Education.

Shortly after moving to Prescott in August 1964, George married Dorothy Jones. He led an exemplary life and was extremely active in many different capacities. At Prescott High School he assumed many roles including librarian, history teacher, track and football coach. Additionally, George was a member of the Lions Club, Director of Alcoholics Anonymous, Treasurer of the Youth Organization: Boys II Men, Girls II Women, Treasurer for Ila Upchurch Community Education Center, Prescott School Board Member and President and Director of Prescott Parks and Recreation Department. Following his retirement, George worked part-time at the Bank of Prescott.

George was also very active at Macedonia Baptist Church where he served as Chairman of the Deacon Board, Church Trustee, Church Treasurer, Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent.

Leading by example through a lifetime of dedication, community service, and commitment to children, George has left an undeniable mark on countless students who attended Prescott Schools and on the Nevada County community. Prescott is a better place, a more cohesive community because of George Odom and he will be deeply missed. My heart felt condolences are with his sons, Mario and Corwin; his daughters, Charra and Chandra; his sister Annie Mae Odom Knowles; and his six grandchildren. While George may no longer be with us, his spirit will live on forever in the lives he touched.

TRIBUTE TO LYN NOFZIGER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as a grassroots volunteer in the Reagan for President campaign of 1976, I saw firsthand the historic efforts of Lyn Nofziger who died Monday in Falls Church, Virginia.

Mr. Nofziger was crucial for the success of the Reagan Revolution which revitalized the American spirit by building an economy of hope through reducing taxes, by enhancing

our military for victory in the Cold War, and by growing the Republican Party to today's status of majority in the state legislatures, state governorships, the U.S. House, the U.S. Senate, and the Presidency.

His contributions for America were highlighted on March 29, 2006 in The Washington Times:

Few people played as a critical a behind-the-scenes role in the rise of Ronald Reagan and the modern American conservative movement as Lyn Nofziger, who died Monday at his home in Falls Church at 81. An Army ranger who lost fingers to shrapnel during the D-Day landing, Mr. Nofziger left a successful career in political reporting to become a top Reagan adviser.

As spokesman for Mr. Reagan's 1966 campaign for California governor, he was a trusted aide in 1968 when the California governor tried to wrest the Republican presidential nomination away from Richard Nixon. During the spring of 1968, Mr. Nofziger recounted many years later, Mr. Reagan visited Republican Sen. Strom Thurmond, who told the then-governor: "You'll be president some day, young man, but not this year."

Perhaps the most serious political challenge Mr. Nofziger would face during his many years as a senior Reagan aide came in March 1976, during the primaries. President Ford had swept all of the early primaries, and prominent Republicans were pressuring Mr. Reagan to drop out and endorse Mr. Ford. Mr. Nofziger, a stalwart conservative, would have none of it. As political consultant Craig Shirley told Ralph Hallow of The Washington Times: Mr. Nofziger "was the steel in Reagan's back that kept him going in 1976 when everyone else wanted him to drop out of the nomination race before the North Carolina primary."

After Mr. Reagan's election, Mr. Nofziger served slightly over a year as White House political director, before leaving the White House in 1982. He became a lobbyist, but instead of the conventional K Street uniform, he was usually seen with his shirt collar unbuttoned and tie loosened, chomping on a cigar and drinking a concoction of whiskey mixed with milk. The editor of this page, who was a young White House aide during the 1980s, recalls meeting Mr. Nofziger, who had left the government, for lunch. Mr. Nofziger grabbed his White House badge and twirled it, telling him that the same people who wouldn't return his calls before he joined the White House wouldn't return them after he left.

In his final years, Mr. Nofziger established his own blog, wrote poetry and became prolific as a book critic for this newspaper. In one case, Mr. Nofziger wrote a scathing review of a professor's book. The writer complained and Mr. Nofziger responded that he would have written a nicer review if the book hadn't been so bad. But Mr. Nofziger subsequently ended up befriending the professor and they established a friendly e-mail relationship.

Lyn Nofziger—journalist, gruff, cigar-chomping pol, trusted aide, and warm, kind-hearted man—will be missed.

USA PATRIOT ACT ADDITIONAL
REAUTHORIZATION AMEND-
MENTS ACT OF 2006

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my extreme dis-

appointment with S. 2271, the USA PATRIOT Act Additional Reauthorizing Amendments Act of 2006. This bill purports to increase protections for libraries and people who have been issued National Security Letters and Section 215 intelligence orders, though in reality, it offers very little recourse for U.S. citizens.

I voted against the Patriot Act Reauthorization in July 2005, and the conference report in December 2005. Neither version of H.R. 3199 sufficiently balanced the needs of law enforcement to protect our country, with the protection of our civil liberties. In December, I stated my firm belief that it is possible to be safe, free, and to protect security while still respecting civil liberties. Unfortunately, H.R. 3199 did not recognize this reality, and neither does S. 2271.

The amendments that were added make it harder to challenge a Section 215 intelligence order than before. Currently, recipients may challenge the gag order immediately after receiving a Section 215 intelligence order. However, S. 2271 would make the recipient wait one year before having the opportunity to challenge the gag order.

I have expressed in the past my serious concern regarding the use of National Security Letters to access Internet records in public libraries. While this bill attempts to exempt libraries from receiving National Security Letters, it fails terribly. According to S. 2271, libraries are only exempt from National Security Letters if they do not offer Internet access—a preposterous claim in this day and age, and an unrealistic expectation. This exemption does nothing to protect public libraries, or their patrons, from having their privacy invaded by the Federal government, and I do not support this provision.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2271 does nothing regarding the Patriot Act to allay the concerns that Democrats and Republicans alike have regarding the protections of our civil liberties. It is disappointing that the Administration has chosen to embrace extreme measures in the name of fighting terrorism, over protecting the civil liberties we all cherish so much. These need not be mutually exclusive—we can fight terrorism, keep our country safe, and respect the rights and liberties that generations of Americans have fought so hard to uphold. Mr. Speaker, I cannot support these additional amendments and intend to vote against S. 2271.

CONGRATULATING ANDREA FREED

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Andrea Freed for her outstanding accomplishments in the Missionette Program in New Castle, PA.

The Missionette Program is sponsored by First Assembly of God in New Castle, PA. It is a national program that is equivalent to the Girl Scout program, except the Missionette Program emphasizes Biblical themes. Andrea has achieved the highest award in the program which includes 27 units with each unit consisting of 4 lessons, a memory verse, activities, and a project. They are required to read the entire New Testament and nine